



VOL XX.



For the Farmers.

PHOSPHATE OF LIME. No. 5.

Mr. EDITOR.—I have buried the bone, and we will not dig it up; but I want to know more about iron and sulphuric acid, or whatever it is that makes some of our land cold, sour and unproductive. My second No. gives some account of the analysis and treatment of the land of Hon. Reverdy Johnson, and in your note you remark, "Our friend of Glenburn is troubled about the iron in that soil, and asks, 'does not sulphuric acid come from iron?'" No sir. Sulphuric acid comes from sulphur. If you combine sulphur and oxygen together you make sulphuric acid. Sulphur is an independent and distinct mineral, and iron is another, but sulphuric acid is sometimes made from an ore of iron. Sulphur and iron are very often found in the earth united together, and form an iron ore called sulphur of iron. There are thousands of acres of land in Maine that contain this ore, which is commonly called copperas rock. "Copperas" is the old name for sulphate of iron, which is nothing else than iron dissolved in sulphuric acid. Sulphuric acid may be made from this copperas rock, by first separating the sulphur from the iron and then combining it with oxygen."

All this is very valuable and desirable information, but it does not meet the wants of the farmer. The "copperas rock," which exists in thousands and tens of thousands of acres of land in Maine, is a deadly poison to plants. Am I right? The farmer wants to know, then, firstly, how to detect the presence of this poison in his land, and secondly, how to treat the land after he has made the discovery. If "copperas" is nothing but iron dissolved in sulphuric acid, it is of course acid, and when dissolved in water, the water will sometimes have an acid taste, and will always be more or less hard. Are not these sure indications of copperas in the soil? On the stage route between Bangor and Augusta there are many places where the oxide of iron may be seen running down the gutters by the sides of the road, in April and May. Is not this a sure indication that sulphuric acid or copperas exists in the adjoining soil? May not the farmer discover that his land contains an excess of the sulphate of iron in this way? Let him examine a field, but one or two years in grass, in May, and if the land contains an excess of acid the old stubble will be dissolved and gone, leaving the roots of the plants some distance apart, with nothing between them but the bare earth; while stubble, upon land free from an excess of acid, will remain and accumulate for a long time undissolved. Lands that contain copperas are always deficient in vegetable matter, and just in proportion, or nearly so, to this deficiency, are unproductive. Is it not so? Is it not all important then, for every farmer to be able to determine for himself whether his land contains copperas rock or not? Can it be done without a chemical analysis?

A GLENBURN FARMER.

NOTE. Our friend of Glenburn has hit the nail on the head, pretty fairly. In regard to the water in which native copperas is dissolved being acid, and the soils which contain it being acid, this is the case when the sulphuric acid is in excess, or, in other words, when there is more acid than enough to dissolve the iron. When the acid and the iron are pretty nearly balanced the water on the soil containing the copperas will have an astringent (or "puckery") taste. In either case the soil is poisoned and needs something to change the nature of the deleterious ingredients. It is thought, however, by many of our orchardists, in and about Winthrop, where there is a good deal of this copperas rock formation, and where is often seen the copperas collecting about the rocks and in the soil, that the apple tree flourishes and bears extremely well in it. In regard to being able to ascertain whether land contains copperas rock, or copperas, without a chemical analysis, we would say, that an eye experienced in the indications given by our correspondent can give a pretty correct judgment as to its character.

LEARN THE BOYS TO GRAFT.

This is the season of grafting, and should be well improved. It is a simple, but a great art—Simple and easy in its operation, but great in its results. Let no boy grow up without being practically acquainted with its details. That we may do our part in bringing this about we have yearly given a few directions, illustrated with jackknife sketches, or diagrams, which present to the eye the operation necessary to be done with the hands.

The advantages of grafting are well known at the present day to need any particular remarks on that score. The requisites for success in this operation are, first, healthy stocks, into which the scions are to be put, and healthy, well ripened scions, of the previous year's growth. These should be cut before the bud begins to swell, and preserved in a cool situation, where they shall neither become dry nor be allowed to start into leaf, as they will if kept too warm and moist. The success of the operation depends on fitting the bark of the scion accurately to the bark of the stock; and keeping it there by artificial means until they have grown together and become one. To effect this, several modes have been adopted. We shall give three of the most effectual and simple methods.

The first is called cleft grafting, and is the method most commonly used. Saw the stock squarely, and shave the top smoothly with a sharp knife, then split it in the centre and keep it open by inserting a wedge. Then pare the large end of the scion, on each side, with a straight and even saw, so that it shall become a wedge about an inch and a half long. Having this done, insert the wedge into the side of the cleft in the stock, so that the seam between the wood and the bark of the scion shall match exactly with the seam between the bark and the

AGRICULTURE.

MECHANIC ARTS!

GENERAL

INTELLIGENCE &c.

AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY MORNING,

APRIL 22, 1852.

NO. 17.

Written for the Maine Farmer.

WINTER-KILLING.

MR. EDITOR.—Will you or some of your readers, through the Farmer, give me some further information relative to winter-killed grain? What kills it, and when does it die? It is my opinion that all or nearly all of our grain which was sown last fall is now uninjured by the cold through this long, dreary winter; but when the snow is gone, it will be found killed to an uncommon degree. I know it is not so likely to kill out when lying naked through most of the winter, the ground being frozen over so hard; as it is when the snow covers the earth for the winter, while the ground is not frozen. I have had my rye look green and promising when it first appeared in the spring, after lying under a cover of snow, upon a bed of unfrozen earth, all winter, and on coming to the light, it nearly all died. Something like this has come under my notice several times, and the reverse as often. I will notice one circumstance among the many.

I had about four acres of new ground ploughed the first time, and sowed in September full moon with three bushels and a half of winter rye. It came up and looked very well in the fall. That winter was uncommonly destitute of snow, and what did come principally blew off that rye field, insomuch that it was doubtful of having much of a crop. I examined it when the snow was all gone; it looked as if it was all dead. But I was greatly disappointed to see it began to look green soon after; and still more pleased, when it got its growth, for its heads were higher than mine, and, when ripe, bowed respectively, in token of having weightier matter in their long heads; and when harvested, I had one hundred and twenty bushels of the best rye I ever had—something over one bushel of rye from each quart sown. This rye made as white flour as our common wheat.

NOW, sir, perhaps you can tell me what killed my rye, (first mentioned,) and what saved my rye, (last mentioned.) It is being shaded a long time that kills it, or is it the sun shining on it before it is able to bear it? I have noticed that where banks of snow lay on the rye longer than at other places, the grain sooner mold and is said to be winter-killed. I know old Winter pinches hard with his iron fingers, and his companion, Old Boreas, sniffs and snorts, and plays with the snow, heating it in our faces. But I doubt whether one or the other kills the rye. If water stands on the grain or grass in the spring or fall, and freezes solid to the ground, that will kill it, most assuredly. Rye or wheat is more apt to kill on flat land than it is on a gentle swell. I should be very much pleased if we could raise our own bread. I am tired of going to New York to mill. I am thinking and hoping we shall have a series of years more favorable for growing wheat and potatoes than we have for five or six years back, and I fear not so good for corn; but we must take it as it comes.

For the Maine Farmer.

ORCHARDING IN MAINE—ITS PROFITS, &c.

DR. HOLMES.—I have read, with deep interest, the discussions upon fruit-growing of the Agricultural Meetings at the State House. The subject I conceive to be one of vast importance to the farmers of Maine. At this day, when the farmer is crying "hard times," and meaning the loss of the wheat and potato crops, and, added to this, the ravages of the California fever, which, in its pestilential career, has swept off its thousands, leaving labor high, with many a farm almost tenanted, and land for sale at almost any price, it becomes necessary to inquire into the profits of farming—to know what branch of agriculture will pay best for the amount of labor expended, and quantity of land occupied. For I know of nothing that the farmer can turn his attention to, that will so well remunerate his toil, add to the comforts and luxuries of life, and diffuse joy and happiness through the family circle, as the cultivation of good fruit.

The profits of orcharding, I believe, are universally admitted by those who cultivate good fruit, to be greater than any other branch of agriculture. I say by those who raise good fruit. I know there are many large orchards, from which no profit is received. I mean those neglected orchards, which (like some of you) have been suffered to "come up," and make just what they happen to. To such I would not refer for profit; and to those who have such, would say, put an experienced grader in the top, or "lay the axe at the root." The question may be asked,—if orcharding is really the most profitable branch of agriculture, will not the Yankee, true to his spirit of enterprise, launch it to such an extent that it will be outdone? This was the fear of some years ago, who, had it not been for such a prediction, might now have been reaping a "fruitful harvest." But experience thus far proves that the demand increases faster than the supply, and there is good reason to suppose this will be the case for a long time to come. It is found that the colder the climate where apples are raised, and the colder they can be kept without freezing, the better they will keep.

ALREADY MAINE, WITH HER LIMITED AMOUNT OF ORCHARDING, HAS SOLD SOME THOUSANDS OF BARRELS OF APPLES TO MASSACHUSETTS, BALTIMORE, PHILADELPHIA, MOBILE, AND OTHER SOUTHERN PORTS THIS SEASON, SOME OF WHICH WERE SOLD FOR \$3 PER BARREL, OR SOMETHING OVER \$1 PER BUSHEL, IN THE KENNEBEC RIVER; AND WHEN WE COMPARE THE AMOUNT OF LABOR THAT HAS BEEN EXPENDED IN THEIR CULTIVATION, WITH THAT REQUIRED TO RAISE THE SAME VALUE IN CORN, GRAIN, POTATOES, OR ANY OTHER CROP, THE STORY WILL BE TOLD LARGELY IN FAVOR OF THE APPLE CROP.—THROUGH THE COLUMNS OF THE "FARMER," WE HAVE ACCOUNTS OF THE BIG OXEN, BIG CALVES, BIG PIGS, BIG EGGS, &c., AND FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE FRUIT-GROWERS, OR THOSE ABOUT ENTERING THE BUSINESS, I WOULD SUGGEST THAT SOME OF THE BIG APPLES, THE MOST NOTED ORCHARD, OR PARTICULAR TREES BE CHRONICLED. COLE, IN HIS WORK ON THE CULTURE OF FRUIT, GIVES ACCOUNT OF APPLE TREES WHICH PRODUCE FORTY, FIFTY, AND EVEN SIXTY BUSHELS IN ONE YEAR. THOSE, DOUBTLESS, WERE RARE CASES; BUT WHEN A TREE PRODUCES ON AVERAGE FIVE BUSHELS OF GOOD FRUIT PER YEAR, IT IS PROFITABLE—YES THERE ARE MANY THAT FAR SURPASSE IT.

AS LEADERSHIP, I CAN TELL THE FARMERS THAT THE ANNUAL PROFIT IS \$300 TO \$500 FOR THOSE SOLD THE PRESENT YEAR. A GOOD DEAL OF INTEREST IS FEEL IN THE PROGRESS OF THIS PROFITABLE PART OF NEW ENGLAND INDUSTRY.

WHEN THE RAILROAD WAS TALKED OF, CROAKERS SAID, LET THAT BE Built, AND THEN WOOD, POTATOES, STAGE AND OTHER HORSES, AND PERHAPS THEY INTENDED TO INCLUDE BEEF, HENS, PEGS, &c., &c., WILL BE ALL DOWN. NOW MARK THE RESULT, ONLY THIS FAR. DRY WOOD (IN PORTLAND) IS WORTH \$6; POTATOES, WHY DR. I CAN TELL THE FARMERS THAT THEY ARE THREE TIMES AS HIGH AS THEY WERE SOME EIGHT OR TEN YEARS AGO, WHEN MORE THAN 25,000 BUSHELS WERE SHIPPED FROM NORTH YARMOUTH, SOUTH; AND AS TO HORSES, WHO COULD HAVE DREAMED OF IT, NOW WORTH \$100 TO \$200, NOT PLENTY AT THAT.

AS TO BEEF, WHY A YOKE OF OXEN WILL BRING WHAT USED TO BE LOOKED UPON AS THE PRICE OF QUITE A FARM, BUILDINGS THROWN IN. NEED I SAY A WORD ABOUT THE PIGS, OR THE PIGGIES—ONLY THAT IT TAKES, "I KNOW," A GOOD PRICE TO GET A PIG, AND THEY ARE NOT LARGE.

AS TO THE BIDDIES, MY MIND WAS GREATLY CHANGED THE OTHER DAY—WHEN A MAN TOLD ME HE HAD RECEIVED THREE FIVE-DOLLAR BILLS FOR 100 DOZEN EGGS—from what it was before the railroads and steam-boats began to run. THE WAY I USED TO PACK AND SEND THEM AWAY AT 61 CENTS PER DOZEN.

WE ALSO TOOK THE SAME METHOD TO ESTIMATE THE NUMBER OF TONS OF HAY CUT THE LAST YEAR, AND ONE, I FANCY, THAT DID NOT LOOK UP TO IT, WOULD SUPPORT A TOWN CONTAINING LESS THAN 12,000 ACRES OF LAND, WITH A POPULATION OF LESS THAN 12,000 AS IS THE CASE WITH NORTH YARMOUTH—WILL GATHER SO LARGELY FROM THE BOUNDARIES OF EARTH IN ONE YEAR.

WE FIND FULL 4000 TONS OF HAY CUT, OF WHICH NOT LESS THAN 1500 TONS ARE SOLD AND SENT OUT OF TOWN. THE AVERAGE "STUMPSAGE," I SHOULD THINK, IS \$5 PER TON.

BY THE WAY, I NOTICE SOME OF THE REPRESENTATIVES SAY—AND WHY SHOULD THEY NOT KNOW!—THAT THE PLOUGHING OF ORCHARDS INJURES THEM. IF THIS BE TRUE, WE ROUND ABOUT WALNUT HILL HAVE BEEN OF LATE DOING MUCH HARM. IF I CANNOT PROVE, DOCTOR, WHAT SHALL WE DO?

NORTH YARMOUTH.

N. Y. STATE LUNATIC ASYLUM. THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THIS INSTITUTION FOR THE YEAR 1851 FURNISHES THE FOLLOWING FEATS: AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE YEAR THERE WERE 429 PATIENTS IN THE ASYLUM; 366 HAVE BEEN ADMITTED, AND 357 DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR; OF WHOM 112 WERE RECOVERED, 15 MUCH IMPROVED, 51 IMPROVED, 13 UNIMPROVED, AND 45 DIED. THE NUMBER NOW IN THE ASYLUM IS 425, OF WHOM 220 ARE MALES, AND 215 FEMALES.

OF THOSE ADMITTED DURING THE YEAR THE GREATEST NUMBER WERE BETWEEN THE AGE OF 25 AND 30 YEARS.

OF THE CAUSES OF DERANGEMENT, THE CHIEF IS STATED TO BE INTEPERANCE, THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS FROM THIS CAUSE, NOW IN THE ASYLUM BEING 44 MALES AND 1 FEMALE. THE PRICE OF BOARD FOR PATIENTS, PRESSING IT CLOSELY AND TIGHLY AROUND THE SCION, TO EXCLUDE THE AIR AND WATER, PRESSING IT ALSO CLOSELY ON THE TOP OF THE STOCK AND INTO THE CLEFT, IS TO \$2.50 A WEEK, INSTEAD OF \$2.00 AS HERETOFORE.

[AMERICAN TRAVELLER.]

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.



R. EATON, Proprietor. | E. HOLME, Editor.
AUGUSTA:
THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 22, 1852.

COMPARATIVE AGGREGATE OF MANUFACTURES AND AGRICULTURE.

A friend has handed us a copy of the second annual report of the Lewiston Water Power Company. It is a neatly printed pamphlet of 24 pages, in which is detailed the progress of the works now in course of construction at Lewiston.

From this report it appears that the works are going on to completion with a rapid progress, and in a manner that will ensure the most advantageous application of the immense water power which they have under their control, with permanence and durability.

Notwithstanding the unfinished condition of the works, the report states that the improvements have yielded an income, including sales of real estate, more than sufficient to pay the interest on the amount expended. The income account from April 1st, 1850, to Jan. 1st, 1852, including sales of real estate, has been \$50,000.

We find the following statement of the comparative aggregate of manufactures and agriculture, which may be interesting to some of our readers. We would premise, however, that the writer takes almost the whole amount of manufactures, and but only eight of the articles of agriculture. Had he taken the amount of all the articles of agricultural product, the difference in favor of agriculture must have been much more.

The last federal census will, when understood, probably exert a friendly influence on the general manufacturing interest of the country, inasmuch as the public will be disengaged in reference to its extent and amount, and the yearly product of manufactured articles has long been a virtue in the estimation of certain people, to draw comparisons, in the most odious manner, between the importance and extent of agriculture, and the insignificance and questionable utility of manufactures; but facts, while they do not diminish the importance of the former, certainly prove that the latter is not a sectional and personal interest that is sustained and upheld by the benefit of a privileged class, but one constituting really the basis of our prosperity.

The entire capital invested in the various manufactures in the United States, on the 1st of June, 1850, not including any establishment producing less than the value of \$500, amounted in round numbers to \$530,000,000.

Number of persons employed, 1,050,000
Amount paid for labor, \$240,000,000
Value of raw material, 550,000,000
Value of manufactured articles, 1,020,000,000

These figures place a man in a very awkward position, when he attempts to represent manufacturers as being wholly and exclusive interest, and as one yet of doubtful policy.

But to illustrate their comparative importance, it is only necessary to refer to the quantity and value of agricultural products. It will be seen by the census that

The cotton crop, at 8 cts. a pound, amounts to \$80,000,000
Wheat, at 75 cts. a bushel, \$1,000,000
Indian corn, at 35 cts. a bushel, 200,000,000
Wool, at 35 cts. a pound, 18,400,000
Tobacco, at 6 cts. a pound, 12,000,000
Butter, at 12 cts. a pound, 37,000,000
Cheese, at 5 cts. a pound, 5,150,000
Hav, at \$8 a ton, 108,840,000
Value of live stock, 552,705,000

\$1,110,164,000

Here are enumerated the yearly production of eight of the principal articles of agriculture, together with the estimated value of all the live stock in the United States, at the time the census was taken, amounting in the aggregate to eleven hundred and nine million and sixty-four thousand dollars.

The amount of value of manufactured articles for the year 1850, during which a general depression prevailed, is ten hundred and twenty millions and three hundred thousand dollars; nearly equal in amount to the annual product of the eight articles of agriculture specified above, and to the live stock (in existence, not the yearly product, or increase) throughout the United States in addition. But these figures need no comment; they indicate, most conclusively, that the manufacturing system of the country has been aptly styled, by way of distinction or eminence, "The American System."

EDITOR'S TABLE.

FARMER AND ARTISAN. This is a new monthly publication just started in Portland, in this State, "devoted to the diffusion of useful knowledge." Marcellus Seavey, Editor and Proprietor. It is a neatly printed octavo of 32 pages, and its first appearance indicates that it will be a faithful, industrious, and honorable co-laborer in promoting the great and productive interests of agriculture and the mechanic arts. Mr. Seavey was formerly a partner with Mr. Robbins, of the Maine Farmer, and associate editor with us. Of course we are bound to say he served in a good school. "Put in," Br. Seavey,—there is work enough to do in the cause.

THE FARMER'S JOURNAL. Another new monthly journal was last week received from the far South. It is an octavo of 32 pages, published in Bath, North Carolina, by John F. Thompson, Editor and Proprietor, and is "devoted exclusively to the setting forth of the various popular improvements in agriculture, horticulture, and the household arts." We believe this is the only agricultural work published in that State, and the Carolinians will be wise to give it a hearty support.

PORTLAND TRANSCRIPT. This paper commenced its 16th volume the past week. It has long been one of our best family papers, and if the past be anything whereby to judge the future, the coming volumes will continue to increase in usefulness and worth.

SARTAIN'S MAGAZINE. The May number of this work is received. The engravings are good, as usual, and the literary matter of a high character.

KENNEBEC STEAMERS. The opening of the river has brought the Kennebec Steamers into full blast again. The "Ocean" started on her regular trips for the season, from Hallowell to Boston, on Monday last. She has been put into thorough repair, and newly fitted up—commanded, as heretofore, by Capt. Sanford, who will put you through in fine style for one dollar.

The "J. D. Pierce" came up to this city from her winter quarters, last Saturday, as bright and as neat as a new pin. She will be commanded by Captain Charles H. Beck, who is well known as a safe and experienced man, and he will land you safely in Bath, every day, for fifty cents.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS. We thank our correspondents for numerous communications which are on file, and will appear as fast as we can conveniently publish them. Among them are articles from friend Taber, A. J. Jr., and others, on fruit growing, which will be published in our next. Also many others on different subjects.—Our old friend Birchwood's communication has been received. We are happy to hear he is still flourishing in the butter line.

LAW DECISIONS.

REPORTED FOR THE FARMER.

PALMER vs. GOODWIN. Assumpsit, by the indorsement against the maker of the following note:

"Boston, Sept. 7, 1847. Three months after date, I promise to pay E. Moore & Co., or order, one hundred and fifty dollars, value received."

The note was indorsed by the payees and a second indorser. These indorsers, together with the plaintiff, were always residents of Maine. The defendant was of Massachusetts. After pay-day of the note, he applied for and obtained a discharge under the insolvent laws of that State. The case was submitted for nonsuit or default, according to legal rights.

Danforth and Woods, for the plaintiff. Whitmore, for the defendant.

SHEPPLEY, C. J. A defendant made by a citizen of Massachusetts with a citizen of this State to pay a sum of money is not discharged by proceedings under the insolvent Acts of that State, *Savage vs. Marsh*, 10 Metc. 594; *Fiske vs. Foster*, *ident. 597*. This action is upon a promissory note made by the defendant, a citizen of Massachusetts, and payable to citizens of this State. Defendant defaulted.

MCLELLAN vs. LONGFELLOW and trustee. Solicitors, counsellors and attorneys are not permitted to disclose, without the assent of their clients, any communication made to them in reference to their professional employment.

NUTTER, Administrator, vs. BAILEY. Under a defense that lumber sold and delivered, was not legally surveyed, arising in a suit brought to recover the price of it, the onus of proof is on the defendant.

BRYANT vs. COULLARD. No action upon a promissory note can be maintained by an indorsee who took it, knowing it to have been obtained by fraud.

Written for the Maine Farmer.

PLANT TREES.

"A little attention, a little more thought of the morrow, a little more faith in what a day or a year may bring forth, would surround every house the coming summer with a green and fruitful yard. Plant a vine here, and a tree there, and go to your neighbor's orchard and clip a bud or shoot, and insert one in every stock that does not already produce fruit. Plant trees by the fence sides; the roots will penetrate beneath them and draw sustenance from ground you cannot cultivate. Set a stout, thrifty grape root, directly where the soap suds from the kitchen will be daily thrown, and in three years' time you will have a fruit-bearing screen to hide the view of some unsightly place. Give this my timely notice that you may not let this spring pass by without making the attempt, at least, to follow my good advice."

Yes, "plant trees." I cannot resist the temptation, Mr. Editor, to call, again and again, upon the good citizens of this State to "plant trees."

Plant all sorts, fruitful and ornamental. Do not forget the lesser fruits of the garden. Plough, sow and reap. Is there any occupation more honorable? Is there any better way to "match" an hour's enjoyment from the heavy cares of life, than to walk in one's garden, the work of one's hands? Come, sit you down, at last, under your own "vine and fig tree," with "none to molest or make you afraid."

We are told in the book of books, after the arrangement of a world out of chaos, that "God formed man out of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." What follows, in the very next verse? "And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed." The very most ancient and most honorable of all occupations, in every point of view. Shall the children of Adam, in this enlightened age, forget to follow in the footsteps of their common earthly parent, so signally indicated by the very hand of God?

Perhaps I speak boldly to riper years; but I know it is honest and earnestly. Let every man begin,—or, having begun, start again with new life and vigor, in a work which, in a few years, change the whole aspect of our noble State. Rush not after gold, with too much foolish and childish insensibility, and too often to an unknown, "stranger's grave." Adorn with your own hands the tombs of your fathers, and loved ones. Step in the free land of your birth, and run not after strange gods in a stranger land.—Plant, sow, reap!

But I do not wish to monopolize your entire paper, Mr. Editor, nor am I ambitious to take any prominent part in arousing our citizens to the vast importance of this subject; only to push, with my comrade, the great ball of reform.—"Small gains, and frequent, make a heavy purse;" and I stop awhile, to see who will gain by it.

A. J. Jr. Note. The continuation of our correspondent's remarks, published last week, on fruit, will appear in our next.

For the Farmer.

HOW THEY USE CROWS IN SULLIVAN.

MR. EDITOR—In looking over the doings of the Legislature, I saw a petition for a bounty on crows, to cause their destruction. I suppose it is from some persons who have had their corn or potatoes pulled up, or some other mischief done, by these pests, the crows. My object in this communication is to show the way that I manage with them.

We have a barn that stands away from other buildings some distance, which is used to put in surplus hay or grain, and where the grain is threshed in the fall. In cleaning up there is always a little grain and wild seed scattered, that the crows come after. In the spring, when they come from the south, they are sure to come round if the ground is covered with snow or a snow storm. As soon as they get here I make a trail with corn, wheat, or peas, some twenty feet or more, in the right direction, and then go into the barn with a well charged gun, the contents of which they get when they are in the best situation. In this way I have killed one hundred and nine crows within ten years, with seven shots.

Some years I cannot get them into the right position, but I can always get them into the right position, when I have killed one hundred and nine crows within ten years, with seven shots.

A Warning. A son of Mr. Wm. McClure accidentally hung himself at Pilot Knob, Crawford county, Iowa, on the 4th inst. He made believe hang himself, to frighten his little sister, and while so doing by some means he missed his hold, and before the alarm was given and he could be cut down life was extinct.

In our directions in regard to "straddle grafting," on the first page, we stated that the scion should be split and shaved down to a wedge form. This is not necessary. Split the scion so that the prong that is to pass across the stock shall be about one-third part of the whole of the scion.—This is all that is necessary to do with it, unless it be to nick off the ends of each prong, so as to make it lay snug after it is put in its place and the bark turned up and tied previous to putting on the clay or cement.

A WORD MORE ON GRAFTING.

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SULPHURIC ACID. have just made a new store out of their old one, and the way their medicines are stored, is a caution to old settlers.

IMPROVEMENT OF SCHOOLS.

The following letter was received while we were confined by sickness. Although partly a private one, yet, as it contains much information valuable to all, and which should be known by the community, we take the liberty to publish all of it for the benefit of our readers. Anything that comes from this apostle of educational improvement will be of service:

ED.

DR. HOLMES—I have three or four occasions for writing you—it may be five or six. I wish to acknowledge the reception of the "Farmer." The near proximity of its date and reception show the power of steam. It brings in close cognizance the extremes and the heart of our republic. The Farmer comes to hand well laden with matter of its usually interesting character, with some respectful reference to matters especially interesting to me, and yet of equal because of paramount interest to every American citizen. I mean general intelligence, and elevated morals, through channels and by vehicles, which it has been the aim of my humble efforts for some years to open to in the Commonwealth for keeping fugitives.

Jails for Fugitives. In the House of Representatives, Penn., on Wednesday, April 7, the bill repealing the act of 1847, denying the use of the jails of the Commonwealth for keeping fugitives, was passed.

From the South. Dr. Craig was killed in an affray in De Soto county, Miss., a few days ago, by Dr. Morris. Capt. Sisson was shot dead by Mr. Patten at Marietta, S. C., on Saturday, 10th inst. W. B. Craig, of Danville, Ky., was mortally stabbed by a runaway slave, while attempting to arrest him, on Monday of last week.

Fire in the Capitol. At three o'clock Wednesday morning, 14th inst., a fire broke out in the Capitol at Washington in room occupied by the clerk of the supreme court. The fire was extinguished by the police force of the Capitol, after destroying most of the furniture. Nothing of material value was destroyed. The origin of the fire is a mystery.

Cholera at New Orleans. Two cholera deaths occurred at New Orleans during the week ending 2d inst.

Breach of Promise. Great panic has been created among the bachelors of Burlington, Vt., by a recent verdict in the County Court, awarding \$800 damages to Miss Celina Bailey, in an action against Mr. Lester S. Warner, for breach of promise of marriage.

Fatal Quarrel. Mr. W. W. Miller, produce dealer, was killed at Louisville on the 9th by his partner, Mr. Phillips, during an alteration on business affairs. Phillips has been bound over for trial.

Provisions in New York. The New York Evening Post states that the Post Office Committee to the U. S. Senate have agreed upon a report in favor of allowing to the Collins line of Atlantic steamers the same right of way as the mail packet service.

Another Touch of Winter. On Thursday last, Fast Day, a storm of sleet and snow commenced, which continued through the night and a part of the forenoon of Friday, leaving the ground covered with snow to the depth of three or four inches. The general appearance out of doors seemed much more befitting mid-winter than "sweet April," that poets sing about. Our winter is longer, marvellously "in the lap of spring." The "April showers" thus far have been all snow, and flowers and "swelling buds," and all that sort of thing, may make their appearance next month,—there seems to be little chance for them this month. Last Friday's snow, however, has all melted away, but we have yet a "few more left" of the old sort of snow-banks.

Migration from Ohio. The Cincinnati Gazette says that during March last, between 3,100 and 3,200 persons—generally farmers—shipped to that point for California—mostly without any intention of returning.

Births at Sea. Ship France, lately arrived at New York, from Antwerp, had five births on board during the passage. There were five hundred and thirty-four births at sea on board ships arriving at New York during the year 1851.

Want of Foresight. Within the last fifty years, a benevolent person offered to the trustees of one of the Lutheran churches of New York a present of about six acres of land near Canal street and Broadway. They passed a resolution that it was not expedient to accept the gift, "inasmuch as the land was not worth fencing in." The land is now worth millions of dollars.

Indecency at the Hotel. A house in New York, caught fire at 12 o'clock on Sunday night, in consequence of a lighted candle being drawn into a hole in the ceiling by a rat. The flames were extinguished by the application of a few pails of water.

Explosion of alcohol. A barrel of alcohol exploded in the grocery store of W. W. Goodrich in New York, on Tuesday night, killing a negro boy, who was incautiously using a spirit lamp near the barrel.

California passenger drowned. Six passengers of the steamer Ohio were drowned at the anchorage off Chagres, while attempting to get into a small boat to go ashore. Two of them were ladies, and two others were gentlemen who jumped into the water to rescue the ladies.

This is the second accident of this kind that has occurred recently at Chagres.

Freshet in Virginia. A freshet occurred on the 5th inst., in Morgantown, Va., which swept away fifteen houses. Riversville, in Marion county, was nearly carried away, and immense damage was done.

Supreme Judicial Court. YORE COUNTY, April Term, 1852.

James H. Smith, plaintiff in error, et al., the State of Maine. This was a writ of error not to reverse the judgment and sentence of murder, against Smith given at the adjourned term of the Court in February, 1851. It will be recited that Smith was a physician in Saco, and committed abortion on a woman by the name of Caswell, who died under the operation. He was then convicted of murder in the second degree, and sentenced to the State Prison for life.

Opium eater arrested. An opium eater named William Wood, was arrested in South Street, New York, on Sunday night, while raving like a maniac for the want of his regular doses. He had forgotten, when he left home, to take a sufficient supply, and hence his distress. He stated that he had got into the dangerous habit by taking opium as a remedy for theague.

Fatal disease. A disease resembling cholera had appeared near Huntsville, Ala., and proved very fatal. Mr. Calhoun's son had died, and also thirteen negroes. It broke out among a gang of young negroes, and was rapidly spreading.

Three children killed. On Monday afternoon of last week, in Hartford, Conn., as a large number of children were at play near an old building which was about being taken down, the wall fell, burying five of the children, three of whom were killed outright, and the two others very seriously injured.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

THE LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.



ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICA.

The steamer America, with Liverpool dates to April 3, arrived at Halifax on Thursday last. She had 65 passengers, 18 of whom were for Halifax.

ENGLAND. Parliamentary proceedings during the week preceding the America's departure were interesting. Mr. Secretary Walpole had introduced the new Militia Bill into the House of Commons. Its provisions aim at raising a force eighty thousand strong—fifty thousand the first year by voluntary enlistment. Estimated expense, £250,000—first year, £100,000.

Lord Palmerston gave the measure his support and advocacy. Lord John Russell, although not opposing it, was disposed to find fault with some of its provisions.

Mr. Hume protested against the proposed extension of the militia, which was voted down by no means decided. Mr. Cobden introduced the idea of an invasion, and complained of an expenditure being incurred to provide against an imaginary evil. The bill was read a first time.

Mr. Monson Miles moved a resolution expressing the disapprobation of the Commons at the measures of Austria threatening British travellers with inconvenience and annoyances in consequence of the refusal of the British Government to expel foreign refugees. Lord Dudley Stuart seconded the motion and declared that the measures of Austria were a violation of the principles of neutrality and mean tyranny of Austria and other despotic powers in Europe. Mr. Walpole considered that the passage of such a resolution might interfere difficulties to the maintenance of present relations with friendly States. Lord Palmerston took a similar view, and eventually the resolution was withdrawn.

In the House of Lords, on the 2d, Lord Derby intimated that it was not intended to interfere with the Maynooth grant. On the same night, Mr. D'Israeli, in answer to Lord John Russell, stated that Parliament would be assembled as soon as necessary measures for the safety and service of the country were passed, and that the sense of the new Parliament would be taken upon the policy of the present government during the present year.

Mr. Mackenzie, one of the Lords of the Treasury, in a recent speech at Liverpool, announced that Lord Derby's Government did not seek to reverse the Commercial policy of Sir Robert Peel, but merely to modify and amend it, so as to afford relief to the Agricultural and Shipping interests, which the repeal of the Corn and Navigation laws had greatly depressed.

FRANCE. The greater part of Paris during the week preceding the sailing of the Americans witnessed the trials of the French Chambers, which took place on the 29th of March. The Prince President performing the ceremony in person; he was attended by a brilliant staff of general officers, colonels of regiments, Councillors of State, & His Reception was of the warmest kind. He read his installation speech standing.

Alluding to the foreign relations of France, he says it was for all our interest to keep with them the most amicable relations. He next proceeds to explain what his conduct will be in doing so. He has been told that the Emperor is a wise & astute Emperor. If the restless and disaffected portion of the community, by underhand intrigues, endeavor to sap the basis of his Government; if, in their blunders, they contest the legitimacy of the popular election, or endeavor by the incessant attacks upon it, the future prosperity of the Ministry, then would be demanded from the people, in the name of the repose of France, a new title, which would irrevocably fix upon his head the power with which they invested him.

Immense applause greeted various salient points of the address, and at the end there was cheering, and the cry of "Vive Napoleon," were enthusiastic.

The Prince President then took the oath of fidelity to the Constitution, after which the members were duly sworn to fidelity to the President. Neither Cavaignac nor M. Carnot attended. On the following day the Senate and Legislative Corps met in their respective Chambers.

Martial law ceased from the 28th ult. in all the departments of Continental France. The mixed communes ceased on the same date.

The civil code resumed its former title of Code Napoléon.

It was reported that the dotation of the President would be fixed at ten million francs with an addition in the event of his marriage. The feeling increases that the empire may be expected.

SWITZERLAND. The committee had obtained an edict warning all foreigners who may be residing in the canton of Geneva without papers of permission, that they will be certainly expelled unless they report themselves at the Police office, and obtain necessary *cartes de séjour*. For those who quit voluntarily, passport chiefly for America or England would be given, but they were to leave the country.

Austria. The Times' correspondent says he has excellent reasons for believing that it is already an understanding that Austria will strictly maintain the existing territorial arrangements, and that Russia, Prussia will make common cause with her in the matter. Austria is still on excellent terms with France. It is said that Austria and Prussia had concluded a treaty of navigation of the Danube according to which the debts payable to that river are abolished.

INDIA AND CHINA. Bombay had reached Liverpool. Negotiations with the Burmese had begun, and their insults being continued, a fleet of gun-boats in equal proportion from Calcutta and Madras, was set to sail for Burma on the 12th of March.

A squadron of war steamers had left Bombay for Rangoon, and would call at Madras to transport troops. Hostilities seemed inevitable. The force under Sir Calvin Campbell had reached Peshawar. The progress of the rebels in China was decided, and unquestionably the Governor General of the Canton province had been besieged in one of his own towns, and the remnant of the Imperial forces had been signally defeated.

ARCTIC OF THE ARCTIC.

The steamer Arctic, from Liverpool April 7th, arrived at New York on Sunday morning last. The news is not of great interest to the general reader.

The London Times of the 7th announces the death of Prince Schwarzenberg, Prime Minister of Austria; he died at Vienna the 5th, of apoplexy.

Accounts from Cape Town to the third of March had reached England. The government's call for a burgher's levy was a failure—a four-hundred British troops were in the Hospital at King William's Town.

The British War Steamer Birkenhead was wrecked at Simon's Bay, Africa, on the 28th of February. She was found with 630 souls, chiefly refugees, for refuge at the Cape, 184 of whom are known to be saved.

The Melbourne steamer from Sidney, arrived on the 5th with \$200,000 in gold. Two other vessels, the day previous brought £180,000, and another was daily expected with £100,000. Wonderful stories are received in England from the Austrian gold mines. One account says the whole dividing range between Sidney and Victoria is known as the Snowy Mountains, is one vast field of gold.

The Arctic squadron to be employed in the search for Sir John Franklin was to leave Woolwich the eleventh of April.

ASCENDED. The Ticket Master, at the Salmon Falls Station, the Boston & Maine Railroad, had died with about \$2,000 in his pocket. He paid all his debts before leaving, and left the amount of his bond in the hands of his heirs.

A grudge against the Company appears to have been the cause of his leaving. [Great Falls Journal.]

SNOW DRIFT. The Springfield, Mass., Republican says that the Orange mail, due at Amherst at 6 o'clock P. M., on Tuesday of last week, did not arrive until 5 o'clock next morning. It was five hours in getting through seven miles of snow drifts. Snow was 20 inches deep throughout Shutesbury and drifted badly.

LEGISLATIVE COMPEND.

TUESDAY, April 12.

SENATE. Resolved appropriating \$2000 for the repair of the road from No. 11 to Letter F, came back from the House amended by striking off \$2000 and inserting \$3000. After a vote, Mr. Cary, of New Haven, moved to postpone the bill, and the question being put, it was postponed.

Mr. Walker moved to postpone the bill indefinitely.

The committee on the part of the Senate, on the bill abolishing the militia, reported that the bill ought to pass. Accepted. The bill passed, and the question being put, it was postponed.

The motion prevailed—yes, 13; nays, 12.

Mr. Bell called up the bill relating to chapter 110 of the Rail Road Statute, which requires giving away of the roads, to be incorporated in the bill, and the question being put, it was postponed.

Mr. Bell moved to postpone the bill indefinitely.

The committee on the part of the Senate, on the bill to incorporate Rockland Plat Road Co.; to incorporate the Lake Manufacturing Company; to provide for the expenditures of government; additional respecting Calais and Baring Railroad Co.; altering and amending the Statute of Incorporation of the Frankland and Kennebec Railroad Company; to provide for the expenses of the State Auditor; authorizing Josiah Simpson to construct a wharf in tideswater in the town of Belfast; resolve to postpone the bill indefinitely.

The motion prevailed—yes, 13; nays, 12.

Mr. Bell called up the bill concerning the militia. Laid on the table.

Mr. Bell moved a reconsideration of the vote indefinitely postponing bill concerning the militia. Laid on the table.

BRIGHTON BILL.—Bills to incorporate town of Holden; to incorporate Rockland Plat Road Co.; to incorporate the Lake Manufacturing Company; to provide for the expenditures of government; additional respecting Calais and Baring Railroad Co.; altering and amending the Statute of Incorporation of the Frankland and Kennebec Railroad Company; to provide for the expenses of the State Auditor; authorizing Josiah Simpson to construct a wharf in tideswater in the town of Belfast; resolve to postpone the bill indefinitely.

The motion prevailed—yes, 13; nays, 12.

Mr. Bell called up the bill increasing the power of commissioners from \$2 to \$2.50 per day.

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